

Filed for intro on 05/24/95
House Bill _____
By _____

Senate No. SJR0276
By Crutchfield

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Margaret Ruth
Blackshear for a lifetime of meritorious service
as an educator and community servant.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the state of Tennessee should pause to pay tribute to those exemplary citizens who have given unselfishly of themselves, their time and their talents to perpetuate the public good; and

WHEREAS, Margaret Ruth Blackshear is one such remarkable public servant, a voice of integrity in education; and

WHEREAS, a native Tennessean, Mrs. Blackshear received her undergraduate degree in Chemistry and Physics from Knoxville College and her master's degree in Mathematics from Northwestern University; Mrs. Blackshear has sought further education throughout her teaching career, pursuing post-graduate studies at Peabody College, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, University of Tennessee at Knoxville, Howard University, and as a doctoral student at Ohio State University; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Blackshear taught at Swift Memorial Junior College for two years before accepting a position with Howard High School in Chattanooga where she taught until her retirement in 1984; and

WHEREAS, throughout her long and distinguished career, Mrs. Blackshear served her students with enthusiasm, industry, and singular acumen; always an active participant in student interests, Mrs. Blackshear wrote and directed several plays and extravaganzas for Howard School; and

WHEREAS, an extremely patient and giving person who motivates students to reach their fullest potential, Mrs. Blackshear has given of her time and talents since her retirement to tutor several high school students in mathematics; and

WHEREAS, an active and vital part of the teaching profession, Mrs. Blackshear has been a longtime member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the Mathematics Association of America, Tennessee Mathematics Association, and the American Mathematics Society; since her retirement she has also become a valued member of Tennessee Retired Teachers and Chattanooga-Hamilton Retired Teachers; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Blackshear has also found time to lend her talents to Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., CALECO, the Urban League, the National Alumni Associations of Knoxville College and Northwestern University, the Association of University Women and has served as an elder in the Renaissance Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, a committed community servant and lauded professional, Mrs. Blackshear has been the distinguished recipient of numerous awards and accolades of which even a brief list is inspiring: The Evans Foundation Teacher of the Year at Howard, Appreciation for Total Involvement and Innovative Instruction at Howard, the UNCF National Frederick D. Patterson Leadership Award, “Ambassador of Social Ethics” and “Soror of the Year” awards by Alpha Kappa Alpha, and Northwestern University’s and Knoxville College’s Distinguished Alumnus awards; and

WHEREAS, as a professional and friend to the community, Mrs. Blackshear is the perfect example of a person totally committed to quality education and the highest ideals of public service, and should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING,
That we hereby honor and commend Margaret Ruth Blackshear for a lifetime of service to her
profession and fellow man.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared
for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.